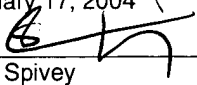


Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: February 17, 2004


Christine M. Spivey

2823

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FEB 23 2004

PATENT
36856.743

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takahiro OGUCHI	Art Unit: 2823
Serial No.: 09/548,414	Examiner: J. A. Garcia
Filed: April 13, 2000	
Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING AN EXTERNAL FORCE DETECTION SENSOR	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

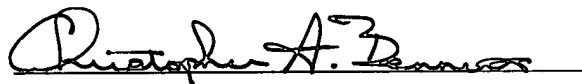
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith are copies of three (3) references cited in the Examination Report issued in a corresponding Japanese Patent Application. For the Examiner's convenience, we have enclosed an English translation of the Japanese Examination Report from the corresponding Japanese Patent Application and a completed Form PTO-1449. The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement, and that this is the first citation of these prior art references by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application. Accordingly, no fee is necessary for the filing of this statement. Should the Commissioner determine otherwise, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1353 for any fee shortages, including the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Applicant respectfully requests that the disclosed references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 17, 2004

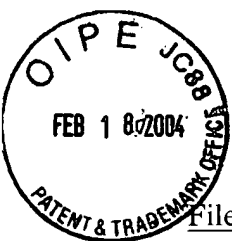
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Christopher A. Bennett", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

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[Handwritten text:

File No. 19

Dispatch No. 014865

Date of Dispatch: January 20, 2004

1 MP861

(1120084)]

NOTIFICATION OF REASONS FOR REJECTION

Patent Application No.: Patent Application No. 2000-026139
Draft Date: January 14, 2004
Patent Office Examiner: Hideo Ariga 9402 2S00
Agent of Patent Applicant: Kiyoshi Igarashi
Applicable Sections: Section 29 (2) and Section 36

The present application should be rejected for the following reasons. If you have an opinion concerning this, please submit a statement of opinion within 60 days of the date of dispatch of this notification.

Reasons

<Reason 1>

The description in the Claims of the present application does not satisfy the requirements stipulated in Section 36 (6) (ii) of the Patent Law in the following respects.

Note

The meaning of the term "set" in Claims 6 through 8 is unclear. The same is true for Claims 9 through 11, which cite these claims.

Accordingly, the inventions of Claims 6 through 11 are not clear.

<Reason 2>

The inventions claimed in the following claims of the present application are inventions that could easily have been invented prior to the filing of the application by a person having an ordinary knowledge of the technical field to which the inventions belong on the basis of inventions described in the following publications, which were disseminated in Japan or in foreign countries prior to the filing of the application. Thus, in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 (2) of the Patent Law, these inventions cannot be patented.

Note

Claims 1 through 11

Cited Example 1: Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H9-330892

Cited Example 2: Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H10-1400

Cited Example 3: Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H10-242483

The technique of forming a chromium [layer] that constitutes a conductive layer in the

[Stamp: 1/29/04, Otaru]

Accordingly, [the inventions] described in Claims 1 through 11 of the present application could easily be invented by a person skilled in the art by utilizing the technique disclosed in Cited Example 1 or 2 in the publicly known technique of manufacturing an external force detection sensor.

Contact: Patent Examination Department 1, Measurement (Distance/Electrical Measurement)
Hideo Ariga
TEL: 03-3581-1101, extension 3257
FAX: 03-3501-0604



Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Sheet	1	of	1
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Application Number	09/548,414
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Filing Date	April 13, 2000
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First Named Inventor	Takahiro OGUCHI
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Art Unit	2823
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Examiner Name	J. A. Garcia
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Attorney Docket Number	36856.743
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[illegible][illegible]Date
Considered

and not considered; include copy of this form with next communication to USPTO. ¹ Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.